the Tapti, Panna and Mukta gas fields awarded to it; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Negotiation with Reliance-Enron consortium are in progress.

International drug trafficking

*11. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are in agreement with the views expressed in some quarters that New Delhi is fast emerging as an important centre of transit for international drug traffic;

(b) whether Government have any evidence which links such drug traffic in the country with activities of international arms smugglers; and

(c) whether there are reasons to suspect the involvement of espionage agencies of neighbouring countries in such activities?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) No, Sir. Government are, however, aware that Delhi is being used as a transit point by drug traffickers for smuggling of heroin and hashish/charas of Pakistani and Nepali origin. Indigenous heroin and hashish from Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan is also being brought into Delhi in small quantities. Intelligence developed and raids organized by various enforcement agencies in Delhi have resulted in substantial seizures of heroin and hashish in preceeding three years.

(b) Information is available of India being used as a transit point of narcotics emanating from sources of supply outside India, originating from the Golden Crescent (Iran-Afghanistan-Pakistan) in the West and the Golden Tringle (Myanmar-Thailand-Laos) in the East. In the Western sector, funnelling of drugs and arms through misguided Sikh youth to carry out terrodist activities have come to light. Similarly, in the Eastern sector, Burmese insurgent groups have been engaged in narcotics and arms trafficking in the North-East sector.

(c) Intelligence agencies of a neighbouring country have been found involved in infiltrating and guiding some top Sikh terrorists and other militants into India after arranging their training in arms and explosions and also in intelligence trade-craft for carrying out the objectives of subversion, sabotage and espionage. A number of smuggler groups particularly on Rajasthan and Gujarat border have their linkage with terrorists on one hand and the drug mafias on the other. These smugglers have been tasked by intelligence agencies of neighbouring countries also to assist in the espionage activities of the agencies.

Increase in the incidents of cancer

*12. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidents of cancer, especially cervical breast cancer is increasing in the country, in the recent years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that about eight lakh new cancer patients are added every year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) why the measures are not being taken to combat this menace?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) The data from National Cancer Registry Programme (ICMR) indicates a small increase in the incidence rate of cancer, including breast cancer. However, there